Government of Saskatchewan

Annual Report 1999-2000

Saskatchewan Municipal Affairs, Culture and Housing

for the fiscal year ending
March 31, 2000

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Letters of Transmittal

Her Honour the Honourable Dr. Lynda M. Haverstock
Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

Your Honour:

I have the privilege of submitting the annual report of the Department of Municipal Affairs, Culture and Housing for the period April 1, 1999 to March 31, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Hillson
Minister

Your Honour:

I have the privilege of submitting the annual report of the Department of Municipal Affairs, Culture and Housing for the period April 1, 1999 to March 31, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Pontikes
Deputy Minister

Department Overview

Municipal Affairs, Culture and Housing is a diverse department with a broad mandate that brings it in contact with communities of all forms to serve the provincial interest.

Vision

Saskatchewan: a diverse society enriched by thriving communities.

Mission

Strengthening communities by building capacity.

Principles

The department believes in:

- equitable access to public goods and services;
- preservation of public legacy;
- efficient and effective allocation of public resources;
- protection of the public against unseen perils;
- mitigation of market imperfections;
- clear and transparent accountability;
- value in diversity; success through co-operation.

Strategic Goals

The department is striving for:

- a municipal system with strengthened local democracy and capacity to:
  (i) meet local needs for essential public goods and services efficiently, equitably and economically; and
  (ii) address pressures arising from local demographic, economic and social change;
- sustainable and vibrant institutions and support systems for cultural development;
- adequate, affordable housing that is available for all people;
- a safe public, protected by appropriate actions of government, industry and citizens working in co-operation; and
- a department comprised of a healthy and productive workforce dedicated to strengthening communities.

Department Organization

The department provides the legal, organizational and financial framework to meet the changing needs of Saskatchewan people. It has four major lines of business: (i) the system of municipal government; (ii) cultural support; (iii) social and affordable housing; and (iv) public safety. Each of these sectors represents a unique but related community of interests.

Municipal and Community Services enables communities to self-govern and provide opportunities for culture, sport and recreation, heritage preservation, and public access to information.

Housing provides access to safe, suitable and affordable housing by working with communities and stakeholders to respond to the needs of lower- to moderate-income households and persons with disabilities.

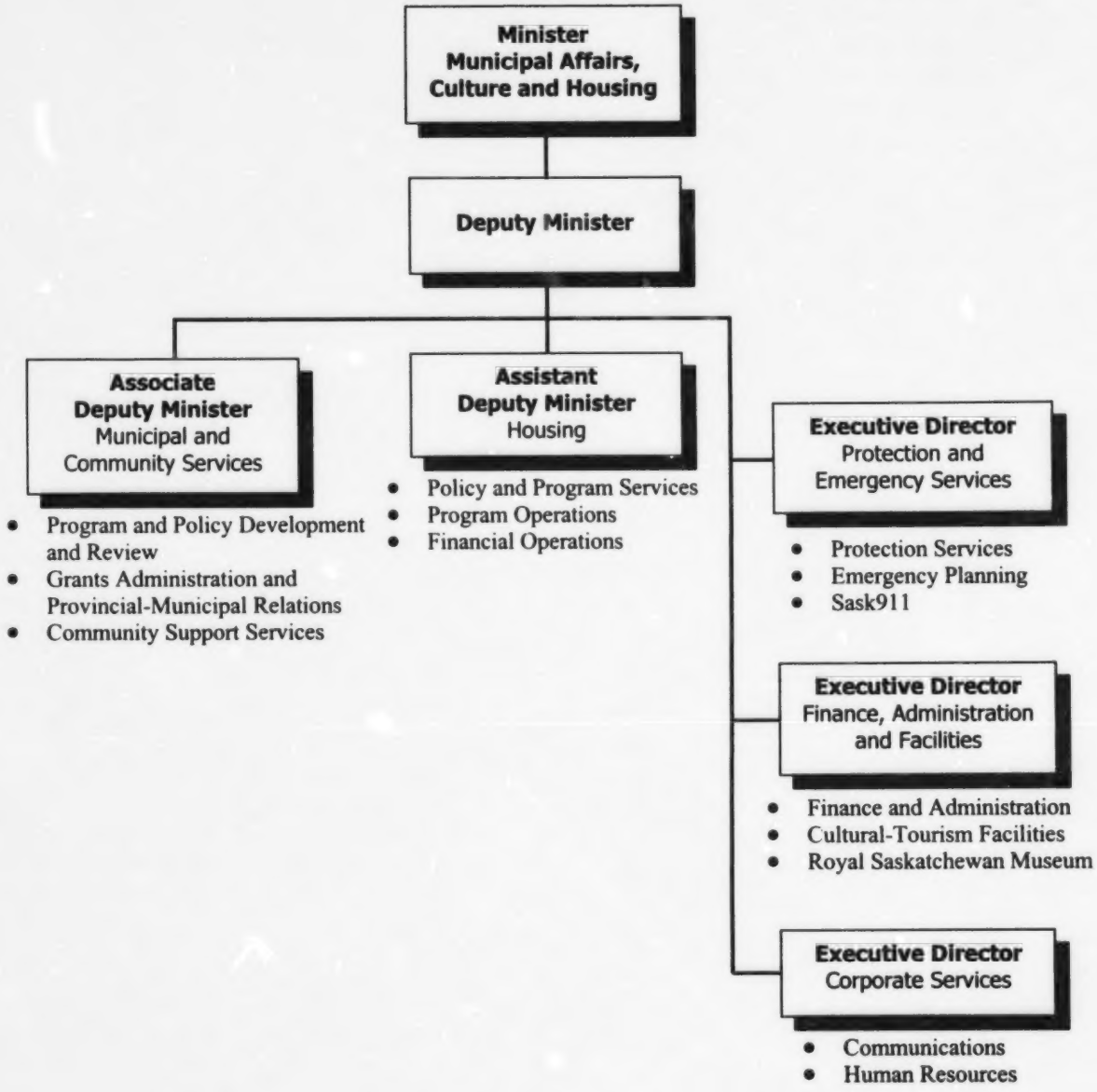
Protection and Emergency Services supports public safety through inspection and licensing programs, regulatory enforcement and advisory services related to structural and major equipment safety. The branch also maintains the provincial emergency plan and is co-ordinating the implementation of the Sask911 system.

Finance, Administration and Facilities provides administrative, financial and information systems which enable the department to support its communities of interest. The branch also manages the department's relationships with provincial cultural-tourism facilities.

Corporate Services communicates the department's goals and objectives and is also responsible for the department's corporate development and human resources.

Department Overview

Organizational Chart



Legislation

The department is responsible for nearly 60 pieces of legislation in the following areas:

Municipal

- *The Assessment Management Agency Act*
- *The Border Areas Act*
- *The Community Planning Profession Act*
- *The Controverted Municipal Elections Act*
- *The Cutknife Reference Act*
- *The Department of Rural Development Act*
- *The Flin-Flon Extension of Boundaries Act, 1952*
- *The Industrial Towns Act*
- *The Lloydminster Municipal Amalgamation Act, 1930*
- *The Local Government Election Act*
- *The Municipal Board Act*
- *The Municipal Debenture Repayment Act*
- *The Municipal Development & Loan Act*
- *The Municipal Expropriation Act*
- *The Municipal Industrial Development Corporation Act*
- *The Municipal Reference Act*
- *The Municipal Revenue Sharing Act*
- *The Municipal Tax Sharing (Potash) Act*
- *The Municipality Improvements Assistance (Sask) Act*
- *The Northern Municipalities Act*
- *The Planning and Development Act, 1983*
- *The Rural Municipal Administrators Act*
- *The Rural Municipality Act, 1989*
- *The Subdivisions Act*
- *The Tax Enforcement Act*
- *The Time Act*
- *The Urban Municipal Administrators Act*
- *The Urban Municipality Act, 1984*

Culture

- *The Archives Act*
- *The Arts Board Act, 1997*
- *The Culture and Recreation Act, 1993*
- *The Doukhobors of Canada C.C.U.B. Trust Fund Act*
- *The Film Employment Tax Credit Act*
- *The Heritage Property Act*
- *The Interprovincial Lotteries Act, 1984*
- *The Jean-Louis Legare Act/Loi sur Jean-Louis Legare*
- *The Libraries Cooperation Act*
- *The Multiculturalism Act*
- *The Public Libraries Act, 1996*
- *The Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation Act*
- *The Tartan Day Act*
- *The Western Development Museum Act*

Housing

- *The Saskatchewan Housing Corporation Act*

Public Safety

- *The Amusement Ride Safety Act*
- *The Boiler and Pressure Vessel Act*
- *The Electrical Licensing Act*
- *The Emergency 911 System Act*
- *The Emergency Planning Act*
- *The Fire Prevention Act, 1992*
- *The Gas Licensing Act*
- *The Passenger and Freight Elevator Act*
- *The Uniform Building and Accessibility Standards Act*

General

- *The Department of Urban Affairs Act*
- *The Rural Development Act*

PROGRAM AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW

The branch supports the department by:

- providing leadership and advice in the development, monitoring and review of public policy, legislation, strategies and programs;
- co-ordinating or undertaking policy and program reviews and developing policy proposals for government, and making recommendations to senior management, and to government;
- recommending and preparing legislation and regulations that provide a legal framework for municipalities, and providing comprehensive legislative support services within the division;
- contributing to policy development for the provincial culture, sport and recreation delivery system, and administering the legislative and regulatory framework for the management, distribution and use of lottery proceeds and casino profits;
- co-ordinating and developing policy, legislation, program direction and long-term planning for the arts, cultural industries and immigrant settlement in Saskatchewan;
- co-ordinating annual preparation of the division's budget and strategic plan.

Goals

- Continue implementing the Municipal Policy Framework, including:
  - review of departmental services to municipalities and development of proposals for changes to services and legislation;
  - respond to the final reports of the Property Tax Exemptions Review Committee and the 1997 Reassessment Review Committee;
  - complete analysis and consultations on grants-in-lieu for non-SPMC properties with an interdepartmental committee and affected provincial departments;
  - develop recommendations for the future of the Transit for Disabled Program; and
  - liaison with the Task Force on Municipal Legislative Renewal and review its interim report.
- Review programs and policies to ensure provincial and public interests are met, including:
  - review the Urban Parks Program; and
  - review the Cultural Industries Development Fund and implement government decisions from the Cultural Industries Development Strategy.
- Finalize negotiations on a new Lottery Agreement with lottery stakeholders.
- Implement the Report of the Recommended Delineation of Health Related Responsibilities between municipalities and health districts, in co-operation with the Department of Health.
- Complete negotiation of immigrant and refugee settlement funding with the federal government and assist the development of a Saskatchewan immigration policy.
- Recommend legislative amendments for consideration by government that will enhance the legislative framework for municipalities, sport, culture and recreation sectors.

Accomplishments

During 1999-2000, the branch:

- Continued implementation of the Municipal Policy Framework, including:

- completed analysis, developed recommendations and prepared legislative amendments for the Spring 2000 Session to respond to the final reports of the Property Tax Exemptions Review Committee and the 1997 Reassessment Review Committee;
- completed an inventory of non-SPMC government-owned properties and developed recommendations for a provincial grants-in-lieu policy for these properties;
- reviewed the province-wide Transit for the Disabled program;
- continued liaison with the Task Force on Municipal Legislative Renewal and reviewed the Task Force's interim report; and
- completed a review of departmental services to municipalities and developed a report on problems and issues.

- Developed a tax policy model using a Geographic Information System (GIS) computer model, in co-operation with Saskatchewan Education and a Regina-based private consultant, Soo Software Inc. The model will determine what property tax shifts will result from reassessment and will be used to recommend provincial property tax policy decisions.
- Developed *The Assessment Management Agency Regulations* to establish a base year for each assessment revaluation.
- Completed amendments to The Urban Municipalities Assessment and Taxation Regulations, The Rural Municipalities Assessment and Taxation Regulations and The Northern Municipalities Assessment and Taxation Regulations to set the assessment value criteria for commercial and industrial properties whose assessments may be appealed directly to the Saskatchewan Municipal Board.
- Prepared amendments to *The Urban Municipality Act, 1984, The Rural Municipality Act, 1989, The Northern Municipalities Act, The Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation Act* and *The Centre of the Arts Act* for Spring 2000.
- Initiated revisions to the Urban Board of Examiner Regulations and development of Assessment Appraiser Qualification Regulations and Electronic Voting Regulations.
- Developed recommendations for regulatory and program changes to the Provincial Disaster Assistance Program.
- Completed a review of the Wascana Centre Authority, as part of a review of the Urban Parks Program.
- Completed implementation of the one-year Cultural Industries Development Fund, completed analysis of the Cultural Industries Development Strategy and drafted recommendations for action, including a budget proposal to extend the fund and negotiate with the federal government.
- Developed an analysis and evaluation strategy for the Saskatchewan Film Employment Tax Credit.
- Completed a profile of the cultural industries sector for the Partnerships for Prosperity Initiative.
- Participated in a review of the Saskatchewan Science Centre, which developed recommendations on governance and financial issues, with a view to restoring stability to the Centre.
- Collaborated with the Provincial Library in developing legislative amendments to *The Public Libraries Act, 1996.*

- Completed negotiations on a new lottery agreement with Sask Sport Inc., Sask Culture Inc. and SPRA, including a reduction of the licence fee from 11 per cent to 9.5 per cent.
- Concluded negotiations on a Supplemental Lottery Agreement with the provinces of Alberta and Manitoba on the operation of the Western Canada Lottery Corporation.
- Developed proposals for legislation regarding administration and accountability of the First Nations Fund.
- Completed the negotiation of immigrant and refugee settlement funding with the federal government.

Future Directions

In 2000-2001, the branch will:

- Assist with work on Municipal Legislative Renewal initiatives through negotiations at the Municipal-Provincial Roundtable, including:
  - review of impediments to voluntary municipal amalgamations and development of legislative or regulatory provisions to address these;
  - review of and consultations with other provincial departments on the City Mayors' submission to the Task Force on Municipal Legislative Renewal and their subsequent request for changes to reduce provincial approvals of municipal actions;
  - review of and follow-up on reports of the Task Force on Municipal Legislative Renewal.
- Prepare for the implementation of the 2001 reassessment, including:
  - determine what projected property tax shifts will result from reassessment;
  - undertake consultations with local government associations and other stakeholders; and
  - develop recommendations for provincial property tax policy related to property classes, mill rate factors and percentages of value to be applied to various classes of property.
- Complete the Regulations relating to Physical Assessment Re-inspection.
- Complete analysis of financing of, and develop regulations for, the Provincial Grants-in-Lieu Program.
- Complete an analysis (in conjunction with other provincial departments and Crown corporations) of the implications to municipal finances of self-generation of electrical energy.
- Continue to review and develop regulations on electronic voting and concurrent elections.
- Complete review of the Urban Parks Program.
- Assist in the development of a Saskatchewan Immigration Policy.
- Co-ordinate departmental policy input and response to oil and gas industry concerns over municipal tax policies, approvals of seismic exploration, and land use controls affecting oil and gas drilling and heavy-haul road agreements.
- Continue to monitor the Western Canada Lottery Agreement.
- As part of the implementation of the new Lottery Agreement (and facilitated through the Lottery Strategic Review Committee), proceed with:
  - an eligibility review;
  - a review of the existing delivery system; and
  - a review of lottery funding to the Province's aboriginal population.

- Implement a revised distribution strategy for the Associated Entities Fund by:
  - developing and implementing revised program guidelines and application process for the Community Grants component;
  - developing and implementing new program guidelines and an application process for Problem Gambling Prevention and Treatment grants;
  - negotiating a revised administrative structure for Métis funding;
  - implementing the Cultural Facilities Grant Program; and
  - amending the relevant legislation.
- Co-ordinate and complete negotiations with the federal government for an agreement on financial assistance for cultural industries.
- Develop recommendations for provincial funding for a Saskatchewan Arts Stabilization Program.

GRANTS ADMINISTRATION AND PROVINCIAL-MUNICIPAL RELATIONS

The Grants Administration and Provincial-Municipal Relations Branch is comprised of three sections and delivers service in four key areas: (i) financial transfer and grant programs; (ii) liaison and relationships with municipalities and their associations; (iii) municipal financial management and reporting; and (iv) public and multitype library services.

GRANTS ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The Grants Administration Section provides grant and transfer programs to the municipal, cultural and cultural-tourism sectors, provides technical expertise to municipal administrators, clerks and auditors relating to financial reporting standards and policies, and compiles and generates statistics on municipal financial performance and health.

PROVINCIAL-MUNICIPAL RELATIONS

The Provincial-Municipal Relations Section undertakes liaison and consultation initiatives with the municipal sector and co-ordinates the department's involvement at meetings and the annual convention. The section also provides program advisory services to the cultural industries sector and the Urban Parks Program.

PROVINCIAL LIBRARY

The Provincial Library co-ordinates the province's public library system, facilitates the development of a multitype library system of public, special, post-secondary and school libraries, and encourages co-operation and resource sharing among all libraries in the province. During the year under review, responsibility for the Provincial Library was transferred to the Grants Administration and Provincial-Municipal Relations Branch.

Goals

- Continue to develop and maintain processes, mechanisms, initiatives and instruments for effective liaison and relationships with municipalities, their associations, and the public library systems.
- Deliver government's financial assistance programs for the municipal, cultural, cultural-tourism and library sectors effectively and efficiently.
- Develop and maintain an effective system of performance and financial reporting for municipalities and the public library systems that promotes public accountability and transparency.
- Continue to co-ordinate the sharing of library resources among all libraries in the province.

Municipal and Community Services

Accomplishments

- Delivered more than $110 million in provincial grants through 20 programs.
- Developed a new municipal infrastructure program for urban and rural municipalities (implemented in 1999).
- Implemented the transitional Policing Costs Restructuring Assistance Program with Saskatchewan Justice to bridge policing costs for municipalities.
- Reviewed 298 rural financial statements and 513 urban financial statements.
- Assumed the administration of several additional grant and transfer programs, including Provincial Library grants, Gaming Funds and the Cultural Industries Development Fund.
- Co-ordinated six Municipal-Provincial and Northern Roundtables and managed the department's involvement in conferences, meetings and workshops.
- Assisted in the implementation of the Internet website ComMuniLink with Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA) and Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM).
- Provided a liaison to the municipal sector on the issue of municipal restructuring.
- Developed an agreement with SaskFILM for the administration of the Saskatchewan Film Employment Tax Credit Program. In turn, 16 Film Employment Tax Credit Certificates were processed for a total of $1,089,817.
- The Provincial Library:
  - developed requirements with the 10 public library systems to acquire a gateway to facilitate the searching and retrieval of information and resources held in Saskatchewan libraries;
  - partnered with the Saskatchewan Library Association and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to provide nearly $1 million in individual grants for public access computing and Internet access to 113 public libraries;
  - negotiated province-wide licenses to information databases and secured a co-operative funding partnership worth $240,000 among public, special, post-secondary and school libraries and the Provincial Library to provide public access to more than 2,000 journals and magazines;
  - concluded the Every Library Connected Project, completing grant payments of $330,990 from Industry Canada and $118,930 from the provincial government for public libraries;
  - provided operating funds, secretariat services and research support to the Multitype Library Board;
  - through the Multitype Library Board, established visual identity for the province's multitype library system and developed a communications strategy to create awareness of the benefits of increased co-operation among libraries;
  - achieved agreement with the ten public library systems on a strategy to achieve public sector accounting principles in support of comparable audited financial statements; and,
  - completed a major policy review of province-wide interlibrary loans resulting in the document, *Saskatchewan Resource Sharing*.

Future Directions

- Enhance consultations, liaison and relationships with the municipal sector through department-initiated meetings for issues such as municipal restructuring.

- Negotiate a Federal-Provincial agreement for a new national infrastructure program.
- Continue the implementation of the Saskatchewan Film Employment Tax Credit Program.
- Review the department's role, responsibilities and needs for Municipal Financial Reporting.
- Assist in the delivery of the Cultural Industries Development Fund.
- Amend the *Film Employment Tax Credit Act*, addressing areas of concern brought forward by the film and video community.
- Amend *The Public Libraries Act, 1996* to strengthen the regional library systems.
- Consult with libraries regarding the future role of the Provincial Library.
- Implement revised cataloguing policies based on a review of province-wide cataloguing services and consultation with library systems.
- Negotiate the purchase of a library gateway to provide seamless access to the collections of Saskatchewan libraries.
- Redesign the Province-wide Library Electronic Information System (PLEIS) website to expand virtual library services and complete a pilot project to co-ordinate libraries answering questions from the public over the Internet.
- Monitor and evaluate the year 2000 implementation of public sector accounting principles in the audited financial statements of the 10 public library systems and determine further changes required to ensure comparability.
- Work with governmental agencies, regional library systems and aboriginal organizations to develop a strategy for public library service for Saskatchewan people living on reserves.
- Secure municipal service agreements funding for the Regina and Saskatoon public libraries.

THE MULTITYPE LIBRARY BOARD

The Multitype Library Board was established under *The Libraries Co-operation Act* to facilitate the co-operative development of the multitype library system in Saskatchewan. Appointed representatives of all library sectors in Saskatchewan meet and discuss ways in which libraries can co-operate to share resources and services. The partners in the multitype library system include public, school, special and post-secondary education libraries, as well as other information providers and the Saskatchewan Provincial Library.

A cross-section of interests from the library community is represented on the Multitype Library Board, including trustees, library directors and front-line library staff. The Board's first fiscal year was 1999-2000. The Board held meetings on May 31-June 1, 1999, September 27-28, 1999, November 29-30, 1999, and February 7-8, 2000.

Goals

- Review multitype library system development in other jurisdictions across Canada and beyond.
- Develop Saskatchewan library community and public awareness of multitype library initiatives and opportunities.
- Develop new approaches for province-wide co-operative licensing of magazine and journal databases for all types of Saskatchewan libraries.
- Research and develop strategies for co-operation on a province-wide electronic document delivery system for Saskatchewan libraries.

- Investigate a mechanism for the Multitype Library Board to receive and disburse funds on behalf of all libraries in Saskatchewan to participate in co-operative buying initiatives.
- Develop strategies for co-operation on implementation of a universal library card for Saskatchewan.

Accomplishments

- Surveyed all multitype library organizations in Canada and some in the United States regarding their structure, governance, membership, financial arrangements, roles and services.
- Established a Promotion Committee, which created a communications strategy, official logo, and brochures to increase awareness of the multitype co-operation across jurisdictional barriers and to promote support for the multitype concept among library decision-makers.
- Created a Multitype Library Board web page on the Province-wide Library Electronic Information System (PLEIS) website that provides information on the Board, *The Libraries Co-operation Act*, meeting minutes, communiqués, reports, presentations, and other documents related to the Board's work.
- Established a Database Licensing Committee consisting of two representatives from each of the library sectors to assist in the administration of province-wide licenses permitting all libraries to have access to thousands of full-text magazines and journals.
- Created procedures, criteria, and survey instruments for evaluating online database products currently licensed in libraries province-wide, established contract administrators for the next year, and created a strategy for re-negotiating licenses.
- Created provisional guidelines for minimum standards for library participation in database licensing and basic criteria for multitype involvement in licensing ventures.
- Established Board participation in Consortia Canada, a consortium of Canadian libraries, for the purposes of nation-wide co-operative library buying initiatives.
- Surveyed Saskatchewan library sectors regarding current use of Electronic Document Delivery (EDD) products, reviewed demonstrations of potential products, and established a committee to develop initiatives for co-operative buying of EDD products.
- Conducted preliminary research on the technology and issues surrounding a universal library card for all library sectors.

Future Directions

- Continue to organize educational and awareness activities within the Saskatchewan library community and develop promotional strategies for a public audience–including a campaign on libraries and information literacy.
- Guide pilot projects for home access to online databases, as libraries are ready to offer this service.
- Continue to investigate potential for co-operative purchases of Electronic Document Delivery products and develop strategies for a pilot project.
- Achieve a Board structure that enables the Board to: (i) effectively administer funds associated with co-operative buying ventures; and (ii) advise more than one minister.
- Monitor potential for multitype involvement in "seamless access" projects and co-ordinate involvement where possible.

- Research and develop strategies for co-operation on a province-wide delivery system for books and other library materials.
- Research requirements for extending "seamless access" beyond public libraries to include all Saskatchewan library catalogues and other gateway initiatives.

Municipal and Community Services

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00
Rural Revenue Sharing Grants			
Unconditional	$12,752,832	$21,082,980	$21,174,417
Conditional	8,489,363	2,649,987	4,227,309
Total	$21,242,195	$23,732,967	$25,401,726
Urban Revenue Sharing Grants			
Unconditional	$26,887,519	$26,880,554	$26,874,596
Conditional	0	0	7,438,968
Total	$26,887,519	$26,880,554	$34,813,564
Grants-in-Lieu of Taxes Program	$0	$3,055,411	$6,482,364
Policing Costs Restructuring Assistance Program	$0	$1,025,064	$4,099,794
Provincial Disaster Assistance Program	$1,223,807	$771,000	$1,017,999
Transit for the Disabled Program			
Operating	$1,798,566	$1,886,806	$1,929,996
Capital	368,864	232,243	219,964
Total	$2,167,430	$2,119,049	$2,149,960
Municipal Restructuring Assistance Program	$3,902	$37,306	$0
Grants to Park Authorities			
Chinook	$78,000	$78,000	$78,000
Meewasin Statutory	740,169	740,169	740,169
Wakamow Statutory	127,000	127,000	127,000
Wascana Statutory	781,550	781,550	781,550
Wascana Maintenance	1,640,000	1,840,000	1,840,000
Total	$3,366,719	$3,566,719	$3,566,719
SAMA			
Statutory	$4,000,000	$4,000,000	$4,000,000
Supplemental	150,000	150,000	150,000
Total	$4,150,000	$4,150,000	$4,150,000

Municipal and Community Services

COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

The Community Support Services Branch contributes to the quality of life in Saskatchewan communities. The branch:

- promotes capable and effective management in urban, rural and northern municipalities;
- supports, maintains and develops the system for municipal governance;
- promotes the sustainable and economical development of communities and the building of community capacity;
- recognizes, preserves and manages provincial heritage resources;
- works with municipalities and other organizations to ensure that all Saskatchewan people have reasonable access to arts, culture, sport and recreation opportunities;
- promotes Saskatchewan's multicultural identity and assists in immigrant settlement.

The branch is organized into six units: (i) Arts, Multiculturalism and Culture: (ii) Sport and Recreation; (iii) Heritage; (iv) Community Planning Services; (v) Municipal Advisory Services; and (vi) Northern Municipal Services.

ARTS, MULTICULTURALISM AND CULTURE; SPORT AND RECREATION

These units:

- promotes the benefits and the role of sport, recreation, culture and the arts as a vehicle to enhance the social and economic development of communities and the province and as a means of building healthy communities;
- works with municipalities, provincial organizations, educational institutions, and other community-based organizations to facilitate access to arts, culture, sport and recreation opportunities for all Saskatchewan people;
- promotes Saskatchewan's multicultural identity;
- encourages the skills of volunteers and facilitates opportunities for inter-community co-operation;
- supports the organizations that assist in the settlement of immigrants to Saskatchewan;
- facilitates the operation and conduct of the Saskatchewan Summer and Winter Games and, with others in the sport community, works to ensure that Saskatchewan is fully represented at the Canada Games and Western Canada Games programs.

Goals

- Provide leadership in and direction for the sport, recreation, arts, culture and lottery delivery systems, including how those systems can contribute to addressing social and economic issues.
- Support the development of strong, self-reliant communities.
- Continue to facilitate access to quality opportunities in sport, culture, recreation, and the arts for all Saskatchewan citizens.
- Serve as facilitators and consultants, in the areas of education, leadership and technical support, to inter-departmental and inter-sectoral committees, inter-provincial programs, the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund, and sport, culture, recreation and arts organizations and agencies at provincial, regional and community levels.
- Provide leadership, consultation and technical support to the Saskatchewan Games Program and other multi-sport games programs, such as the Canada Games and Western Canada Summer Games.
- Support and facilitate initiatives that contribute to equity and accessibility in

quality sport, culture and recreation participation opportunities and that promote a fair and safe environment for all participants.

- Assist the sport, culture, recreation and arts community program delivery network to provide effective and accessible programs, services and use of resources.
- Support the organizations who assist in the settlement and integration of immigrants to Saskatchewan.
- Facilitate and support the commemoration of events such as the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (March 21) in order to raise awareness and encourage an understanding and celebration of our differences.

Accomplishments

During the 1999-2000 fiscal year, the unit:

- co-ordinated Team Saskatchewan's participation at the 1999 Western Canada Summer Games in Prince Albert (Team Saskatchewan finished second, which is the province's most successful performance ever at a Western Canada Summer Games);
- provided consultative and technical support to the host corporations for the 1999 Western Canada Summer Games in Prince Albert, the 2000 Saskatchewan Summer Games in Yorkton and the 2000 55 Plus Games in Weyburn;
- continued to facilitate community development and capacity building at the local, regional, zone and provincial levels;
- continued consultative support and resources to the 11 Regional Intersectoral Committees on Human Services to help them achieve their priorities;
- supported 22 projects in the second year of the Community Grant Program on Race Relations, a two-year pilot project addressing racism and discrimination;
- provided financial assistance through the Saskatchewan Immigrant Settlement Assistance Program (SISAP) to settlement agencies in Saskatchewan that work with new immigrants and help them to integrate into their communities;
- conducted a Facilitators/Trainers Workshop on "Eliminating Racism from Sport and Recreation" to provide a training model which can be used by community leaders to conduct workshops in communities throughout the province;
- developed a comprehensive high-performance sport development strategy in partnership with Sask Sport to assist coaches and athletes participating in Canada Games, with the focus on the 2005 Canada Summer Games being hosted by Saskatchewan;
- developed a provincial coaching plan and strategy, and established a provincial coaching committee to further coaching development in the province;
- assisted in the initiation of a pilot project to assess the benefits of restructuring the zone/regional sport and recreation delivery system in southeast Saskatchewan.

Future Directions

In 2000-2001, the unit will:

- provide consultative, leadership and technical support services to the host organizing committees to support the 2000 Saskatchewan Summer Games in Yorkton and the 2000 55 Plus Games in Weyburn;
- implement the comprehensive high-performance sport development strategy for athletes and coaches, with the focus on Canada Games programs–particularly the 2005 Canada Summer Games to be hosted by Saskatchewan;

- continue to assist with the development of the Trans-Canada Trail in Saskatchewan and with the national 2000 Trail Relay;
- facilitate and co-ordinate Trailpaq in Saskatchewan to track and support community trail development by inventorying a wide spectrum of trails throughout the province and including the information on an Internet resource centre;
- develop an inter-sectoral strategy that will provide a collective direction that supports an active way of life and physical activity, and support the federal/provincial/territorial joint initiative to reduce physical inactivity among Canadians by 10 per cent by 2003;
- provide consultative and technical support services to communities wishing to prepare bids to host the 2005 Canada Summer Games;
- provide consultative, leadership and technical support services to the city selected to host the 2005 Canada Summer Games in Saskatchewan;
- facilitate the development of a Pilot Zone 9 Sport Council Project to develop a team from northern Saskatchewan to participate in five sports at the 2000 Saskatchewan Summer Games and to increase sport development and participation opportunities for northern athletes;
- co-ordinate and facilitate Team Saskatchewan's participation in the 2001 Canada Summer Games in London, Ontario;
- facilitate the process of selecting a host community for the 2002 Saskatchewan Winter Games;
- evaluate the Community Grant Program on Race Relations;
- continue to monitor the trends and inclusiveness of community-based sport, culture and recreation programming in Saskatchewan; and
- continue serving as a resource to interdepartmental committees such as the Child Action Plan and the Human Services Integration Forum.

HERITAGE

The unit:

- Regulates and manages the conservation, preservation, and development of the province's historical, archaeological, palaeontological and architectural heritage resources;
- provides advisory services to municipal and community heritage programs and projects and works with lottery-funded heritage organizations to develop their programs and projects;
- supports the programs of the Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation, which provides financial assistance to community heritage projects;
- participates in the development of provincial and national strategies regarding various environmental and social conditions.

Goals

- Culturally-appropriate management of aboriginal heritage resources.
- Increase public and client access to information on heritage resources.
- Effective regulation of protected heritage resources.
- Management of the expanding inventory of provincial heritage resources.

Accomplishments

During 1999-2000, the unit:

- inventoried and undertook condition checks of Sites of A Special Nature;
- initiated a memorandum of understanding to manage the Central Burial Ground and established a trust fund with the Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation to maintain the cemetery;
- completed the designation of sites recommended as Provincial Heritage Property;
- converted the archaeological sites and the historic structures databases to ACCESS to provide greater capacity and compatibility;
- published the *Directory of Provincial & Municipal Heritage Property in Saskatchewan 2000*;
- co-ordinated public hearings on the Saskatchewan Heritage Property Review Board in Nipawin and Humboldt;
- published and distributed the final report of the Interim Heritage Council, entitled *A New Vision for Saskatchewan's Heritage.*

Future Directions

In 2000-2001, the unit will:

- continue to develop the heritage inventories electronic database;
- implement the government's response to the Interim Heritage Council Report;
- assist Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation develop a policy on managing Crown-owned heritage properties;
- revitalize the Provincial Heritage Property designation program;
- finalize the negotiations with stakeholders and implement the policy on managing the Central Burial Ground.

COMMUNITY PLANNING SERVICES

The unit:

- promotes local municipal capacity to manage community development activities;
- provides professional advice and assistance to rural, urban and northern municipalities and to the public on community planning matters;
- develops information, policies and programs to provide clients with the tools, skills and abilities to plan and manage the interests of their communities;
- co-ordinates inter-departmental consultation to address provincial interests in the use and development of land;
- consults with other government agencies to identify the potential impacts on municipalities of proposed developments, First Nations land selections and provincial policies; and
- provides advice to Saskatchewan municipalities on options for future development, and how to utilize strategic or land-use planning, zoning bylaws and land subdivision.

Goals

- Ensure that provincial legislation in the area of community planning meets the changing needs of municipalities.
- Ensure that provincial interests in the use and development of land are addressed.
- Facilitate community planning in a professional and timely manner.
- Assist communities to undertake their own community planning and work with other communities to address joint issues.

Accomplishments

During 1999-2000, the unit:

- completed a study of the water and sewer infrastructure needs of northern communities;
- delivered a workshop on zoning administration and legal issues related to bylaw enforcement and made educational presentations to municipal councils and other groups;
- provided conflict resolution assistance to municipalities involved in the development of intensive livestock operations;
- prepared legislative amendments to *The Planning and Development Act, 1983*;
- provided educational and technical assistance to the oil and gas industry, especially with regard to development in the Great Sand Hills;
- facilitated inter-municipal planning processes by assisting the Lloydminster, Melfort and Tisdale District Planning Commissions with the preparation of land-use policies, bylaws and agreements to promote co-operation and establish community priorities;
- supported inter-agency Integrated Resource Management Planning Programs for the Whitehood, Mistatim Marsh–Bjorkdale West Forest, and Fort à la Corne Provincial Forest by providing staff resources and input to ensure the integration of local government interests with provincial environmental objectives;
- provided the following planning approval services:

Project Approvals	Type	
Development Plans	Bylaws	0
	Amendments	12
Basic Planning Statements	Bylaws	10
	Amendments	14
Zoning	Bylaws	14
	Amendments	134
Subdivisions	Applications	1,234
	Approvals	1,026
	No. of Sites	2,018
	Refusals	3
	Re-Approvals	5
Dedicated Land	Sales/Exchanges	12
Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs)	Reviewed	35
Intensive Livestock Operations (ILOs)	Reviewed	52
Treaty Land EntitlementS (TLE)	Reviewed	177

Future Directions

In 2000-2001, the unit will:

- continue to work with Saskatchewan communities to build their capacity to develop options, and make and implement decisions respecting land use and infrastructure planning;
- begin implementation of a multi-year program to install and upgrade water and sewer services in northern communities;
- initiate a comprehensive review of *The Planning and Development Act, 1983.*

MUNICIPAL ADVISORY SERVICES

The unit:

- provides administrative and technical support services to facilitate the effective and efficient operation of municipal governments;
- facilitates training and educational workshops for municipal officials on municipal administration, procedures and policy development;
- reviews applications for changes in municipal status and boundaries;
- helps local governments develop policies and procedures;

- produces the Municipal Directory for use by municipalities, government departments, interest groups and the general public;
- sponsors professional development opportunities for rural and urban officials jointly with the Rural Municipal Administrators Association of Saskatchewan (RMAAS) and the Urban Municipal Administrators Association of Saskatchewan (UMAAS); and
- provides administrative support and advice to the Urban and Rural Boards of Examiners which issue certificates of qualification to municipal clerks, treasurers, administrators and others who qualify for certification.

Goals

- Review municipal acts to streamline urban boundary processes.
- Make appeal processes in *The Local Improvement Act* consistent with the property assessment appeal process in the municipal acts.
- Facilitate education and training for members of municipal Boards of Revision.
- Expand the use of various electronic media for distributing information to clients (including the continued development of information for the department's website) and encourage municipal self-sufficiency through this electronic access.
- Develop education and training tools for elected and administrative municipal officials on a variety of topics, in partnership with UMAAS, RMAAS, SUMA and SARM.

Accomplishments

During 1999-2000, the unit:

- facilitated education and training sessions at the annual conventions of SARM, RMAAS, UMAAS, and the Provincial Association of Resort Communities of Saskatchewan (PARCS);
- developed proposals for amending municipal legislation on boundary alterations, ministerial approvals and local improvement appeals;
- developed and implemented enhancements to the Municipal Directory database, program and website;
- completed municipal office inspections for certification purposes and submitted reports to the Urban and Rural Boards of Examiners within Board deadlines;
- conducted two workshops for newly-elected rural council members, in co-operation with SARM;
- developed and enhanced the "team-region" approach to branch service delivery;
- participated in the review of the provincial role in the municipal administration profession;
- provided training to members of municipal Boards of Revision through guidebooks and a series of regional workshops;
- completed changes in municipal status and boundaries:

Boundary alterations	25
Reversion	2
Dissolutions	2
Name changes	1
Correction Orders	4
Incorporations	1

Future Directions

In 2000-2001, the unit will:

- continue to review and propose changes to various Acts and Regulations to improve legislation, remove provincial involvement in municipal matters, and remove impediments to voluntary municipal restructuring;

- develop programs, services and strategies to build the capacity of municipal clients, making them more self-reliant;
- facilitate educational initiatives for municipal clients and newly-elected officials (in partnership with RMAAS and UMAAS) on elections, reassessment policy and tax policy; and
- provide educational materials for the public on municipal conflict of interest and local government in Saskatchewan.

NORTHERN MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Northern Municipal Services is divided into two areas: (i) Northern Municipal Advisory Services and (ii) Financial Services.

(i) Northern Municipal Advisory Services:

- administers 11 communities designated as northern settlements, 14 recreational subdivisions, and the unorganized area designated as the Northern Saskatchewan Administration District;
- provides the link between the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Culture and Housing, the locally-elected advisory committees of northern settlements, and the cottage owners' associations of recreational subdivisions;
- provides municipal advisory services to 24 autonomous northern municipal governments;
- helps northern municipalities carry out their legislative and administrative responsibilities and conduct their financial affairs and activities;
- fosters the growth and development of elected and appointed officials, enhancing their abilities to carry out their responsibilities and direct the municipal operations of their communities;
- provides advice, guidance and training to northern officials and the public on a wide range of northern municipal matters;
- ensures that northern municipal governments operate in compliance with provincial statutes; and
- provides monitoring and assistance to communities in need of additional help in their administrative and financial management.

(ii) Financial Services:

- administers and operates the Northern Revenue Sharing Trust Account;
- manages and controls the department's northern operating, capital, and water and sewer grants programs; and,
- provides municipal accounting assistance, advice, and information to officials of northern municipalities and recreational subdivisions.

Goals

- Assist and support northern municipalities and other departments in the ongoing Treaty Land Entitlement activities in northern Saskatchewan.
- Contribute to the Northern Strategy goal of developing a stronger and more diversified northern economy by making maximum use of northern Saskatchewan suppliers for our operations, within existing provincial purchasing guidelines.
- Facilitate the implementation of the Northern Water and Sewer infrastructure project.
- Participate with other provincial departments and agencies in activities

related to the Saskatchewan Association of Northern Communities and the Northern Municipal Roundtable.

Accomplishments

During 1999-2000, the unit:

- completed more than 300 community visits and responded to more than 4,000 inquiries;
- provided support to the formation and ongoing operations of the Northern Revenue Sharing Trust Account Management Board (NRSTAMB);
- provided financial information in support of the Northern Water and Sewer Infrastructure Needs Study;
- provided historical information and various briefings on the operations of municipal government in northern Saskatchewan to the Task Force on Municipal Legislative Renewal;
- administered and delivered the northern operating, capital, and water and sewer grants programs, disbursing $11,568,116 under those programs during the calendar year 1999;
- directed the operations of the Northern Revenue Sharing Trust Account for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1999.

Future Directions

In 2000-2001 the unit will:

- preserve and enhance the Northern Revenue Sharing Trust Account as a vehicle to support operating and capital funding assistance to northern municipalities;
- continue provision of administrative, clerical, and technical support to the NRSTAMB;
- assist the NRSTAMB in the formulation of recommendations to the Minister for legislative and/or regulatory changes to *The Northern Municipalities Act,* in order to meet the evolving needs and aspirations of northern municipalities;
- deliver the third year of the five-year, $6-million Northern Capital Grants Program;
- participate in the implementation of the Northern Water and Sewer infrastructure program for northern communities;
- assist and support Treaty Land Entitlements efforts in northern Saskatchewan, and manage and direct the dissolution or status reversion of any northern municipality that may occur as a result of TLE activities;
- provide input to the Task Force on Municipal Legislative Renewal about the future direction of municipal legislation in Saskatchewan;
- facilitate election workshops to help returning officers handle elections in northern municipalities, and educational workshops to help newly-elected officials familiarize themselves with the duties and responsibilities of holding an elected position;
- take pro-active measures to encourage the involvement of northern settlements in northern economic development through participation in CREDO's and/or joint venture agreements;
- participate with other units of the branch in developing or modifying strategies, policies, programs and services that will better respond to the needs of northern municipalities;
- work to ensure that the efforts of various departments in any activity are geared toward the common good of the residents of northern Saskatchewan.

Housing

Saskatchewan Housing Corporation (SHC) provides quality housing and housing programs for low-income seniors, families, individuals and groups with special needs who could not otherwise afford safe, adequate and secure accommodation.

SHC owns housing units and maintains agreements with others to manage the day-to-day operations of 32,000 housing units. There are nearly 300 housing authorities and 150 co-operatives, non-profit agencies and others providing assistance to 14,000 senior households, 11,500 family households, and 6,500 households for persons with special needs.

The operating costs of $164 million are funded by tenant rents, the federal government, the provincial government, municipalities and others.

The Minister responsible for SHC establishes local housing authorities and appoints volunteer board members who are nominated through community, provincial and federal participation.

SHC's activities are carried out through three branches: (i) Policy and Program Services; (ii) Program Operations; and (iii) Financial Operations.

POLICY AND PROGRAM SERVICES

The branch develops and evaluates policies, programs and housing services in response to changing trends and needs through:

- collaboration with stakeholders, other departments and agencies, and other levels of government;
- evaluation of programs and services, and the monitoring and analysis of economic and demographic trends;
- research and analysis of tenant characteristics to address the health, social and safety needs of current and future housing tenants;
- co-ordination of information technology infrastructure and support for the province-wide housing network; and
- mortgage and loan administration.

PROGRAM OPERATIONS

The branch administers the social and affordable housing programs for low- to moderate-income households through:

- consistent application of policies throughout the more than 450 management groups of housing authorities, housing co-operatives, private landlords and non-profit housing organizations;
- facilitation of housing services to support the safety, independence and well-being of tenants;
- technical assistance, inspection services, training and property management advice to those who manage the housing portfolio; and,
- delivery of new programs and administration of SHC's land holdings.

FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

The branch delivers residential repair programs for low-income households and tenants. It also co-ordinates financial services and business information systems for SHC, housing authorities and non-profit housing organizations by:

- establishing financial policies and operating financial information systems to meet management and legislative reporting requirements;
- co-ordinating budgets and forecasts;
- providing treasury and debt management services; and

- developing business systems to meet operating requirements of the province-wide housing network.

Goal

To provide Saskatchewan residents who have an identified housing need with access to affordable and adequate housing.

Accomplishments

During 1999-2000:

1. Increased home ownership

The Neighbourhood Home Ownership Program (NHOP) continued to revitalize inner-city areas and make home ownership possible for lower-income families by working with seven community development organizations in Prince Albert, Regina, Saskatoon and Moose Jaw. Since this program began in 1997, 18 co-operatives have been formed and approximately 90 families have become homeowners.

Through the Remote Housing Program, 33 homes in six northern communities were constructed for lower- and moderate-income families. Over the three years of the program, 80 families provided "sweat equity" labour to become new homeowners.

In 1999-2000, SHC offered the Mortgage Discount Option to eligible homeowner clients living in northern remote communities. By paying off their mortgage to SHC, 10 families obtained private financing for the balance of the discounted amount. The program stimulated private-sector involvement and responded to requests from northern stakeholders to create greater equity with the assistance available in other northern homeowner programs.

2. Affordable Rental Accommodation

There can be extreme fluctuations in fiscal, demographic and economic conditions in local housing markets. Sometimes conditions in the private housing market prevent households with sufficient income from obtaining housing and related services.

SHC purchased rental housing in Saskatoon (219 family units), North Battleford (60 units), and Prince Albert (60 units) during 1999-2000. Community partnerships with the cities were essential to complete these purchases. The units in these buildings will continue to be rented at affordable rates.

SHC purchased and renovated 72 units in Regina and constructed 60 new housing units in 14 northern communities to add to the social housing portfolio.

SHC continued to address the growing need for housing in the north through the Rental Market Assistance Program (RMAP). This program provided grants to private developers, municipalities and non-profit organizations to construct affordable rental housing. In 1999-2000, 16 rental units were made available in four communities for a total of 85 units over three years.

A revised subsidy package was again offered by the Co-operative Housing Program to ensure: (i) that rents remain affordable; and (ii) that the current number of units where rents are based on a family's income would not be reduced. In 1999-2000, one co-operative voluntarily chose the alternate subsidy arrangement, bringing the total to nine. The original program with CMHC continues to meet the needs of the remaining two co-operatives.

3. Repair Programs

Financial assistance of nearly $5.4 million was provided through various repair programs to individuals living in 776 households. The repairs involved changes to the access or design of homes to accommodate special needs, as well as making homes healthier and safer.

The province funded $91,000 for the Home Modification for the Disabled Program (Home Mod). The Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Programs (RRAP) and Home Adaptations for Seniors Independence Program (HASI) were cost shared with the federal government.

Repair Funding Provided to Individuals

	Units	Assistance Committed
RRAP		
-homeowner	317	$2,984,000
-rental	130	1,059,000
-disabled	61	422,000
-emergency repairs	136	650,000
HASI	73	160,000
Home Mod	59	91,000
Total	776*	$5,366,000

*Of this total, 121 homes were located in the north, where repair program costs exceeded $1.1 million.

In addition to assisting lower-income individuals, major renovations were completed in order to maintain the quality of the SHC stock, upgrade common amenity space, and improve accessibility for aging seniors and persons with disabilities.

4. *Addressed the needs of a growing seniors' population*

Saskatchewan Assisted Living Services (SALS) became available in 80 sites in 44 communities. Through this community-based service, tenants living in senior social housing are offered support to help them live independently. With financial and administrative support from SHC, housing authorities and non-profit sponsors co-ordinate the delivery of five optional services: (i) social and recreational activities; (ii) personal response systems; (iii) laundry; (iv) housekeeping; and (v) up to one nutritional meal per day. These services are now available to tenants in approximately 4,440 units on an affordable fee-for-service basis.

5. *Improved administrative, financial and information systems*

Activity-based costing was expanded to several SHC branches and the Territory Offices in order to better understand the link between activities and costs. The information collected is now used in program evaluations. A framework to evaluate programs was developed for all of SHC's programs and services to be used in strategic planning and future program development.

Focus groups helped to define priorities in order to update our integrated business information systems and improve communication and business processes in the housing system.

Future Directions

In 2000-2001, SHC will:

- renew its housing strategy using the suggestions and advice from stakeholders, northerners and others. Meetings and workshops will be held in several centres throughout the province to help develop a common understanding of the housing system and related issues, as well as identify future priorities;
- continue to draw on the capacity and expertise of new and innovative partnerships and develop innovative financing options for lower-income families to purchase homes;
- continue to encourage participation in SALS by members of the provincial housing system. SHC expects to have SALS available in up to 9,200 units by 2005. SHC will continue upgrading projects to meet the needs of aging seniors and special needs populations;
- implement the first year of programming under the new three-year, $9-million funding pool to improve housing needs in the north. One program, suggested by

northerners, will provide an opportunity for families who are long-term renters to purchase their home;

- move forward with the recently-initiated program evaluation process to enhance the housing network's ability to make the best use of limited resources;
- complete a business needs analysis and select a systems solution to fit the business and communication needs of the housing network;
- continue to pursue opportunities with the federal government and others to provide funds and research for housing, and to address the growing need for affordable housing;
- the province will double its cost-shared funding with the federal government for repair programs, administer a new RRAP program to convert non-residential structures to residences, and deliver the Shelter Enhancement Program to renovate existing shelters for women, children and youth who are victims of family violence;
- SHC, the City of Saskatoon and seniors will begin a new life-lease pilot project called Arbor Green. The shared-equity investment project will be built on the former site of the Saskatoon sanatorium. Construction is expected to start in the summer of 2000.

Protection and Emergency Services

The Protection and Emergency Services Branch protects the public against unseen perils through inspection and licensing programs, as well as training, advisory and support services for local authorities.

The branch administers a wide range of public safety programs involving regulation, enforcement and technical advisory services. It supports public safety through: Inspection and Licensing Services; The Office of the Fire Commissioner; Building Standards; Saskatchewan Emergency Planning; and Sask911.

INSPECTION AND LICENSING SERVICES

The unit preserves public safety through regulatory and enforcement programs operated on a fee-for-service basis. The unit's programs focus on the commercial, institutional and industrial sectors, but protect the safety of all Saskatchewan residents.

The unit:

- administers boiler and pressure vessel programs that focus on six areas:
  - review and registration of equipment design;
  - inspection during manufacture;
  - inspection during initial installation;
  - periodic in-service inspections;
  - licensing and certification of manufacturers, installers and welders; and
  - examination, certification and licensing of boiler operators and engineers;
- administers elevator and amusement ride safety programs that focus on:
  - verification and registration of equipment designs;
  - inspection during installation to ensure functional safety requirements;
  - licensing and periodic inspection when the equipment is in service; and
- administers licensing programs for contractors and individuals who perform gas and electrical installations.

Goals

- Protect public safety through regulatory and enforcement programs aimed at minimizing risks associated with the use of pressure equipment, elevating and amusement ride devices, and gas and electrical installations.
- In consultation with industry stakeholders, develop regulations to support the *Boiler and Pressure Vessel Act, 1999* and provide a modern, revitalized regulatory framework for the boiler and pressure vessel sector.
- Initiate amendments to The Passenger and Freight Elevator Regulations which adopt the latest codes and standards.
- Review *The Electrical Licensing Act* to provide an updated legislative and regulatory framework.

Accomplishments

During 1999-2000 *The Boiler and Pressure Vessel Act, 1999* received Royal Assent, providing the necessary authority to develop a modern, revitalized regulatory framework for the industry. The development of new regulations was initiated and will continue during 2000-2001 (in consultation with stakeholders).

Also in 1999-2000, the unit:

- maintained active participation on the committee established in 1998-99 (with

representation from organized labour, industry, government and Crown corporations) to review the use of restricted electrical licences under *The Electrical Licensing Act*;

- conducted 9,112 inspections of the approximately 9,800 boilers and 28,000 pressure vessels in active operation throughout the province, including 6,920 periodic in-service inspections and 2,192 initial inspections of newly-installed pressure units;
- made 248 visits to inspect pressure equipment during manufacture (for use in Saskatchewan and for export to other provinces and countries);
- made 285 visits to operating plants to inspect repairs and alterations to pressure equipment and piping systems;
- issued 3,093 orders and recommendations to correct potentially hazardous or non-compliant conditions identified through the above inspections;
- reviewed 2,286 pressure equipment design packages submitted for registration by manufacturers from around the world, including 196 individual welding procedures and 174 Quality Control Program manuals;
- registered 2,142 (of the 2,286) packages, with the remaining reviews carried over to 2000-2001;
- administered 753 individual welders' performance qualification tests and issued an additional 267 registration certificates to out-of-province welders;
- conducted quarterly examinations for power engineer and fireman certification in Regina and Saskatoon, and held 16 special sittings in response to industry and community college requests;
- administered 1,327 individual examination papers involving all classes of power engineer's and fireman's certificates and issued 518 certificates to qualifying candidates;
- issued 1,850 five-year registrations to certificate holders to maintain previously issued certificates;
- no major accidents involving fatalities or serious injuries resulting from pressure equipment failure were registered;
- reviewed and registered 114 design packages for proposed new elevating device installations in the province; and
- licensed 2,590 elevating devices in the categories below:

Licenses Issued under *The Passenger and Freight Elevator Act*

Type of Licence	1999-00	1998-99
Passenger Elevator	1,524	1,547
Freight Elevator	254	258
Dumbwaiter	129	129
Lifts for Handicapped	502	461
Manlifts	123	50
Escalators	25	24
Chair Lifts	3	3
T-bars	12	11
Rope-tow	18	19
	2,590	2,502

- completed 2,344 inspections on elevating devices and issued 1,253 correction orders (a total of 801 orders were cleared by year-end with the balance carried over to the first quarter of 2000-2001);
- inspected and licensed 196 amusement rides;
- investigated 14 reported accidents or incidents–six involving escalators, five involving elevators, two involving go-karts, and one involving a ski rope-tow (there were no fatalities or serious injuries);

- issued 1,682 electrical licences and 953 gas licences to individuals and contractors;
- 5,388 and 3,214 licences were in effect respectively under *The Electrical Licensing Act* and *The Gas Licensing Act*;
- initiated four recourse-to-bond actions under the guarantee bond provisions of contractor's licences to remedy defective workmanship where the responsible contractor failed to respond to correction notices.

Future Directions

In 2000-2001, the unit will:

- continue to review its legislation and regulations to modernize and revitalize programs to meet the needs of government, industry stakeholders and the public; and
- protect public safety through regulatory and enforcement programs.

THE OFFICE OF THE FIRE COMMISSIONER

This unit provides communities, fire departments and emergency service organizations with information, education and leadership to enhance their capabilities to protect people, property and the environment from the effects of fire.

The unit:

- advises municipalities on all aspects of fire protection;
- conducts fire prevention activities such as building inspections, building plan reviews and public education;
- participates in the training and education of fire service personnel; and
- investigates fires and provides program support, including the gathering and analysis of fire statistics.

For more detailed information and fire statistics, see the Office of the Fire Commissioner's *1999 Annual Report.*

Goals

- Contribute to a reduction in fire-related losses.
- Advance training and education for fire services personnel by making it more accessible and by providing testing and certification.
- Expand co-operation in the delivery of fire prevention, public education and fire investigation programs and strengthen partnerships with all organizations that have an interest in promoting fire safety.

Accomplishments

During 1999-2000, the unit:

- saw 15 fire-related fatalities in the province–considerably less than the 10-year average of 22 fatalities per year;
- completed approximately 36 fire investigations, in conjunction with police and insurance agencies, for major loss fires (including deaths and suspicious fires);
- continued instructor certification programs (142 certified instructors were registered to provide training);
- continued to support the City of Moose Jaw's Risk Watch™ pilot project to bring police, fire, health and educational representatives together to reduce preventable accidents involving children;

- hosted the second annual Public Fire and Life Safety Educator's Conference for approximately 100 participants;
- continued to implement the Emergency Service Telecommunications Program;
- formally established the Fire Service Joint Council Ministerial Advisory Committee to provide input, advice and co-ordination on fire prevention and protection issues;
- partnered with the Regina Fire Department and Regina Home Builders Association on the annual smoke alarm awareness campaign for the inner city;
- participated with Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Education and Skills Training in a review of human resource development requirements for the fire and rescue sector;
- hosted a poster colouring contest during Fire Prevention Week (October, 1999), with entries from 8,800 students from more than 258 schools;
- improved the Fire Incident Reporting system; and
- published and distributed the *Fire Commissioner's Newsletter.*

Future Directions

In 2000-2001, the unit will:

- work with organizations throughout the province to make training more accessible, while expanding co-operation in fire protection, public education and fire investigation;
- assist in developing self-sufficiency at the local level and provide support for local authorities through advisory services and training in the areas of plan reviews, inspections and investigations;
- continue the relationships with the Manitoba Emergency Services College and Alberta Fire Training School for training for members of fire departments in Saskatchewan; and
- participate in the development of an improved national code development system and prepare for implementation of objective-based codes under the National Fire Code of Canada.

BUILDING STANDARDS

The unit oversees provincial standards for building construction related to fire and health safety, structural sufficiency, and barrier-free accessibility.

The unit:

- monitors and updates legislation and regulations concerning building and accessibility to reflect national standards and accommodate innovation in products, material and methods;
- assists owners, designers, builders and others in complying with these requirements by interpreting standards and the legislation, and by gathering and distributing information;
- provides administrative and technical support for the Saskatchewan Building and Accessibility Standards Appeal Board;
- advises municipalities on the administration and enforcement of provincial standards and helps them develop building bylaws and control building construction within their jurisdictions; and
- reviews the applications and qualifications of building officials, issuing three primary classes of building officials' licences.

Protection and Emergency Services

Goals

- Provide code users with useful and timely interpretation of building and accessibility standards, as well as guidance on the administration and application of these standards.
- Distribute relevant information to code users.

Accomplishments

During 1999-2000, the unit:

- answered 841 technical inquiries regarding application of the National Building Code of Canada and 499 general inquiries regarding legislation affecting building construction;
- reviewed 54 municipal building bylaws and answered 149 inquiries about building bylaws and administrative procedures;
- responded to 136 inquiries related to building officials' licences and issued 16 licences, for a total of 88 active licences;
- published and distributed the *Building Officials' Newsletter* and information about the National Building Code to municipalities, building officials and designers; and
- initiated planning for an improved national code development system and objective-based codes.

Future Directions

In 2000-2001, the unit will:

- participate in the development of an improved national code development system, and prepare for implementation of objective-based codes with the National Research Council of Canada; and
- provide code users with useful and timely interpretation of building and accessibility standards, as well as guidance on the administration and application of these standards.

SASKATCHEWAN EMERGENCY PLANNING

Saskatchewan Emergency Planning (SEP):

- maintains the Provincial Emergency Plan and contingencies;
- serves as a central co-ordinating agency for provincial government resources during a state of emergency;
- assists government departments, Crown corporations and agencies with emergency planning;
- provides on-site consultation to municipal officials during local government states of emergency; and
- encourages the formation of local government emergency measures organizations and aids in the development of local emergency plans by:
  - delivering education and training programs; and
  - co-ordinating the delivery of the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP) with Emergency Preparedness Canada.

Goals

- Improve awareness of the importance of including mitigation in emergency preparedness plans.
- Help municipalities develop contingency plans.
- Work with other government entities to update the Provincial Emergency Plan to

provide accurate guidance for emergency management and disaster recovery operations.

- Work with Saskatchewan Environment and Resource Management to improve hazardous material preparedness, response and recovery procedures.
- Continue to assist municipal governments change from emergency telecommunications Line Load Control to the improved Priority Access for Dialing (PAD) system.
- Continue training programs for municipality and health district officials.
- Continue to support other organizations interested in emergency management and preparedness.

Accomplishments

During 1999-2000, SEP:

- responded to a number of municipal emergency situations and provided support to local officials dealing with crisis management;
- amended the Provincial Emergency Plan to better reflect the current government organization and responsibilities;
- developed specific contingencies to handle potential consequences of the transition to the year 2000;
- operated the provincial government's Emergency Operations Centre and maintained links with other emergency operations centres in Saskatchewan and across Canada during the Y2K transition period;
- worked with Saskatchewan Environment and Resource Management on hazardous material preparedness, response and recovery procedures;
- laid the groundwork to assist municipal governments change from emergency telecommunications Line Load Control to the improved PAD system;
- delivered training and education programs for local officials, including information on mitigation and contingency planning; and
- continued to work as a member of the joint Canada-U.S. Praire Regional Emergency Management Advisory Committee to maintain the necessary protocols for the exchange of resources, if needed.

Future Directions

In 2000-2001 the unit will:

- undertake a review of emergency planning and preparedness in consultation with key stakeholders;
- support and enhance the work of the regional committees that operate the Provincial Emergency Resource Centres during government emergencies;
- deliver training and education programs to all levels of government; and
- support other organizations interested in emergency management and preparedness.

SASK911

The Emergency 911 System Act was proclaimed in 1996, providing the legislative authority for development and implementation of Enhanced 9-1-1 service province-wide. Once completed, the Sask911 system will ensure that by dialing 9-1-1 from any land-line telephone in Saskatchewan, people will be able to access a trained emergency call-taking operator who has automatic access to telephone number and location information.

Protection and Emergency Services

Planning and implementation of the Sask911 system continued in 1999-2000 in collaboration with municipalities, health districts, local emergency service providers, SaskTel, the Departments of Health and Justice, and the four Sask911 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs).

Department expenditures for Sask911 were $216,210 in 1999-2000, including $156,210 for development and advisory committee costs, and $60,000 for a one-time payment to the City of Saskatoon, which signed a Sask911 Service Agreement with the province in 1999-2000.

Goals

- Continue to co-ordinate expansion of Sask911 to areas that do not currently have access to Enhanced 9-1-1 service.
- Continue to work with stakeholders to create and deliver public education about the Sask911 system.

Accomplishments

During 1999-2000, Sask911:

- co-ordinated the expansion of Sask911 service to areas of the province without Enhanced 9-1-1 access, including 41 communities around Prince Albert;
- worked with stakeholders to develop and deliver information about the Sask911 system to the public;
- completed a Sask911 Service Agreement with the City of Saskatoon;
- facilitated the establishment of Enhanced 9-1-1 service in Regina and Saskatoon using the Y2K-compliant Sask911 system; and
- established PSAP regional service area boundaries in regulations.

Future Directions

In 2000-2001, Sask911 will:

- continue to co-ordinate the expansion of the Sask911 service to areas of the province without Enhanced 9-1-1 access;
- assist with the implementation of Sask911 service to the areas to be served by the South Saskatchewan 9-1-1 PSAP;
- work in partnership with stakeholders to provide further public information and education about the Sask911 system; and
- support access to and implementation of electronic mapping for the Sask911 system.

Finance, Administration and Facilities

The Finance, Administration and Facilities Branch serves the department through two areas: (i) Finance and Administration; and (ii) Cultural Tourism Facilities. The branch provides administrative, financial and information systems which enable the department to support its communities of interest. The branch also manages the Royal Saskatchewan Museum and oversees the department's relationships with the province's cultural tourism facilities.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Finance and Administration promotes accountability, strategic thinking and wise management of department resources. Central support services provided are:

- accounting;
- asset management;
- budgeting;
- financial management;
- information technology;
- mail services;
- office accommodation;
- procurement;
- records management; and
- strategic planning.

Goals

- Strengthen the department's administrative accountability system;
- Advance the department's strategic management practices; and
- Enhance information technology services.

Accomplishments

During 1999-2000, the unit:

- processed financial transactions exceeding government benchmarks for timelines and accuracy;
- helped implement government's new performance management and accountability framework as a pilot department;
- provided strategic support services as the department developed an integrated strategic and budget plan;
- implemented a more integrated office automation system; and
- completed year 2000 contingency plans.

Future Directions

In 2000-2001, the unit will move toward full implementation of the government's planning, performance management and reporting framework, including further development of:

- financial plan;
- information technology plan;
- capital plan;
- performance measurement; and
- risk assessment and risk management.

CULTURAL-TOURISM FACILITIES

Municipal Affairs, Culture and Housing provides financial support in the form of an operating grant to the following cultural-tourism facilities:

- Western Development Museum
- Saskatchewan Centre of the Arts
- Wanuskewin Heritage Park
- Saskatchewan Science Centre

Each of these facilities is governed by an arms-length board of directors and has its own executive director. The grant paid to each of these organizations is listed in the financial statements located at the end of this annual report. Each of these organizations prepares an annual report covering its operations and activities. Annual reports for the Western Development Museum, the Saskatchewan

Centre of the Arts and Wanuskewin Heritage Park are tabled with the Legislative Assembly as required by the enabling legislation for each of those entities. The Science Centre, which is incorporated under The Non-Profit Corporations Act of Saskatchewan, produces an annual report for its membership.

Goal

- Stabilize provincial cultural-tourism facilities to enable the study, preservation, and interpretation of Saskatchewan's human and natural heritage for the cultural, educational, scientific, and economic benefit of residents and visitors

Accomplishments

- In partnership with SaskPower and the City of Regina, developed a plan for the stabilization and renewal of the Saskatchewan Science Centre;
- Assisted the Western Development Museum in addressing environmental conditions that threatened the operation of the Moose Jaw Branch;
- Supported Wanuskewin Heritage Park in the development of a business plan to address the long-term sustainability of the park; and
- Supported the Saskatchewan Centre of the Arts in its legislative and capital renewal efforts.

ROYAL SASKATCHEWAN MUSEUM

The Royal Saskatchewan Museum (RSM) is managed by the department, and therefore includes its activities in this report. The RSM furthers an understanding of Saskatchewan's natural history and aboriginal cultures, past and present. It communicates that understanding through exhibits and publications, in a culturally sensitive and scientifically accurate manner for the purposes of education and enjoyment.

The RSM acquires, conserves and researches material evidence of human and natural history. It develops and maintains exhibits on the natural history and aboriginal cultures of the province. The museum works co-operatively with First Nations to create exhibits and develop, manage and preserve collections of Saskatchewan's aboriginal cultures.

The RSM advances our knowledge of Saskatchewan's ancient past through the collection, preservation and study of fossils. It also manages collections of, and conducts research on, the province' s flora, fauna and ecology. Curriculum-based educational and extension programs are provided to Saskatchewan schools, as well as programs and services for museum visitors.

Goals

- Continue to develop the Life Sciences Gallery and open the Saskatchewan School Children's exhibit, Our Dreams;
- Clarify the roles and relationships between the RSM and the University of Saskatchewan on research, collections management, and participate in student supervision in the areas of Aboriginal History, Earth Sciences, and Life Sciences;
- Develop a plan for the capital development of the RSM facility in consultation with Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation and Wascana Centre Authority;

- Continue research in natural and aboriginal history focusing on fossils of the Frenchman Valley and Cypress Hills, the ecology of grassland birds, and the prehistoric human occupation of the Brabant Lake area.

Accomplishments

Progress on the Life Sciences gallery continued with the completion of six exhibits: Boreal Summer, Sage Flats, Frenchman Valley, Beaver Pond, Barren Ground Caribou and Athabasca Sand Dunes. Significant progress was also made on the Rain Forest, Mackenzie Delta, Cypress Hills Unique Species, Mixed Woods, and Introduction to the Ecoregions of Saskatchewan exhibits. "Our Dreams," the concluding exhibit for the Life Sciences gallery, was completed and opened to the public in December 1999.

A grant for $250,000 from the Climate Change Action Fund of Natural Resources Canada and Environment Canada was received. This will allow the completion of exhibits in the Human Factor section of the Life Sciences Gallery.

The exhibits at the Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park Administration and Interpretive Centre were refurbished, vastly improving their appearance and extending the expected life of these displays.

Extensive discussions took place with the departments of Geology and Anthropology and Archaeology at the University of Saskatchewan toward developing a common understanding about research, supervision of graduate students, teaching of undergraduate classes and collections management. Work continued with the Faculty of Education at the University of Regina in offering classes on the use of museums in a community-oriented, resource-based Social Studies curriculum to student teachers.

A grant from the National Science and Engineering Research Council of $16,800 per year for four years was received. This will support University of Saskatchewan graduate students in palaeontology under the supervision of the museum's Curator of Palaeontology. The RSM supervised, or participated in the supervision of, two undergraduate and four graduate students at Saskatchewan's universities during 1999-2000.

A student intern program was begun with the Treaty Four Association and funded by the Museums Assistance Program. A curator will be trained for the Treaty Four Archival Centre.

Nine scientific papers were authored, or co-authored, by museum staff. These appeared in scholarly journals or were presented to meetings of learned and professional societies.

A long-range capital development plan was begun and renovations took place to upgrade and modernize the museum rotunda.

Work to prepare the Eastend T. rex fossil continued as did field surveys and research on the fossils of the Frenchman and Cypress Hills formations. Field work at Brabant Lake, found evidence of Glacial Lake Agassiz and of occupations at least 2500 years old and possibly up to 6000 years old.

Participation of school children in museum activities continued to be a priority. In 1999-2000, the RSM:

- conducted a three-day archaeology field school with the Grade 9 class of Rhoda Hardlotte Memorial Keethanow High School in Stanley Mission;
- offered a new earth science program called "Saskatchewan Rocks" that is geared to the Grade 4 science core unit of rocks and minerals;
- participation in structured education programs increased from the previous year to 9,655 from 9,258;
- an estimated 4,000 students benefited from the province-wide distribution of museum loan kits of gallery-related, hands-on study materials.

Future Directions

In 2000-2001, the RSM will:

- work with Eastend Community Tourism Authority to establish the Royal Saskatchewan Museum Fossil Research Station in the new T. rex Discovery Centre and begin palaeontological operations there;
- continue original research in natural and aboriginal history with emphasis on the fossil resources of the Frenchman River Valley and Cypress Hills and the archaeology of Stanley Mission and Brabant Lake in northern Saskatchewan;
- open the Saskatchewan Ecoregions section and continue development of the concluding Global View and Human Factor sections of the Life Sciences Gallery. Develop educational programming for the new Life Sciences Gallery and make improvements to the programs, facilities and displays in the PaleoPit;
- complete discussions with the University of Saskatchewan regarding research, collections management, and student supervision;
- complete a concept plan for the future physical and functional development of the museum in consultation with SPMC.
- contribute to the preservation of Saskatchewan's heritage resources and the development of community museums by:
  - participating in, and contributing to, the activities and programs of the Museums Association of Saskatchewan;
  - developing policy on the stewardship of fossils and improving public awareness of The Heritage Property Act respecting fossil resources; and
  - helping community museums develop and manage their exhibits and collections.

Corporate Services

COMMUNICATIONS

Communications provides advice and support to the department on planning and delivering information about policies, programs and services to the public. The branch accomplishes this through research and analysis, strategic communications advice and counsel, and communications planning and management.

The branch serves the department and the public through various ongoing activities, including:

- planning and organizing special events, preparing speaking notes and managing media relations;
- managing all print procurement for the department;
- co-ordinating staffing and material for trade show displays;
- managing production of media materials for the Canada and Western Canada Games and co-ordinating the dissemination of games results to the media;
- publishing the employee newsletter *Team Spirit*; and
- managing the production of annual reports for the department, Saskatchewan Housing Corporation and the Office of the Fire Commissioner.

Goals

- Increase awareness of the department's role in strengthening communities.
- Improve external communications and provide information directly to stakeholders.
- Identify, analyze and manage emerging issues.
- Improve internal communications to maximize the department's effectiveness.

Accomplishments

During 1999-2000, the branch:

- designed and introduced a website to stakeholders that provides access to information about the department's programs and services;
- identified, analyzed and developed communications strategies and support materials for department issues and initiatives;
- co-ordinated the openings of 12 housing projects and recognized 136 long-service Housing Authority board volunteers;
- enhanced the visual identity of the department with a new trade show display;
- wrote 68 speeches for the Minister and department officials and supported responses to 131 media inquiries;
- produced the quarterly staff newsletter and annual reports for the department, Saskatchewan Housing Corporation and the Office of the Fire Commissioner; and
- organized management forums and staff meetings to support the Deputy Minister's efforts to engage staff in discussions about the department's strategic direction.

Future Directions

In 2000-2001, the branch will:

- develop processes and guidelines for the ongoing operation of the department's website, as well as train staff to handle website maintenance and updates;
- provide communications support to major initiatives, such as Centenary Fund and municipal infrastructure grants, the development of property tax policies, expanded Sask911 service, a renewed housing strategy, legislative amendments; and
- support communication, public education and effective stakeholder relations for all program areas of the department.

Corporate Services

HUMAN RESOURCES

Human Resources contributes to organizational effectiveness by providing leadership, direction and management for the strategic development of human and organizational resources.

Human Resources serves the department by:

- facilitating learning and development opportunities;
- providing industrial relations advice and consultation;
- providing advice about staffing and classification;
- referring to employee and family assistance plans;
- managing employment equity;
- administering benefits (public employees dental plan, extended health plans, group life insurance, long-term disability, deferred salary leave and superannuation plans); and
- keeping central records (personnel and position files, attendance, long service, department re-employment lists and payroll information).

Goals

- Promote a barrier-free workplace which values diversity.
- Support a workplace environment that is free from discrimination, prejudice and harassment.
- Support awareness of human resource related policies and processes.
- Identify, analyze and manage emerging human resource issues.
- Support internal communication and training to maximize the department's effectiveness.

Accomplishments

During 1999-2000, Human Resources:

- worked with the Employment Equity Committee to develop employment equity staffing targets and assisted management in the staffing of the following categories:

	Target	Hires
Women in Management	1	9
Women in Non-traditional Positions	4	6
Persons of Aboriginal Ancestry	4	10
Persons with Disabilities	4	6
Members of Visible Minority Groups	1	1
Total	14	42

- worked with the Women's Secretariat and developed a training plan to offer anti-sexual harassment training for all department employees;
- co-ordinated computer training for all employees on the new Microsoft Office Suite software installed in the department (staff training in this area totaled 1,180 days);
- worked with the department's Employment Equity Committee and completed an Employment Equity self declaration survey accomplishing a 90% return rate.

Future Directions

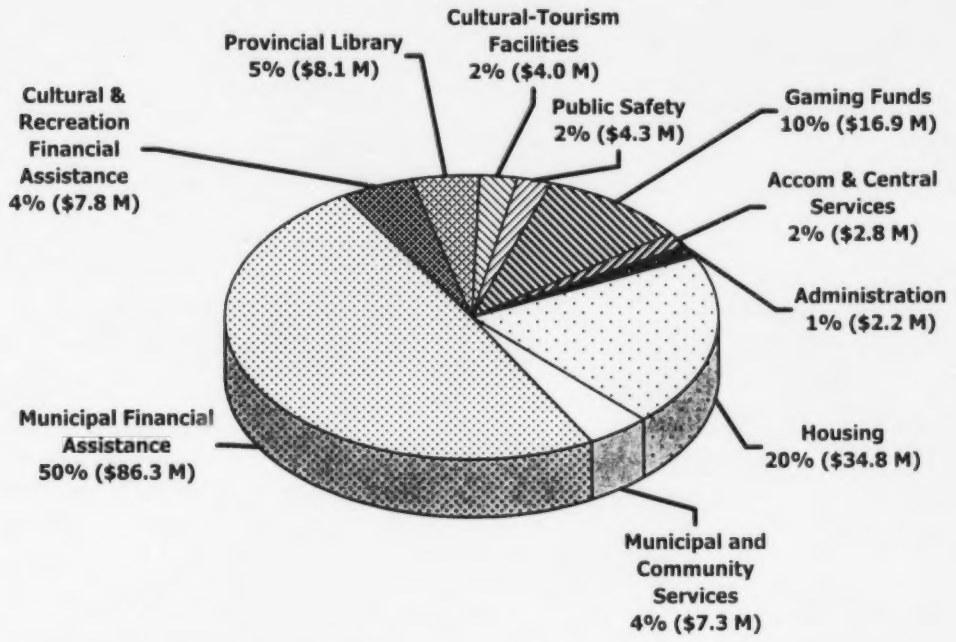
In 2000-2001 Human Resources will:

- implement the anti-sexual training plan established in 1999-2000, delivering sessions for all department employees;
- develop a corporate training plan that supports department priorities.
- develop a Human Resources strategic plan for the 2001-02 fiscal year as part of the overall department strategic plan.
- develop a department orientation package for staff.

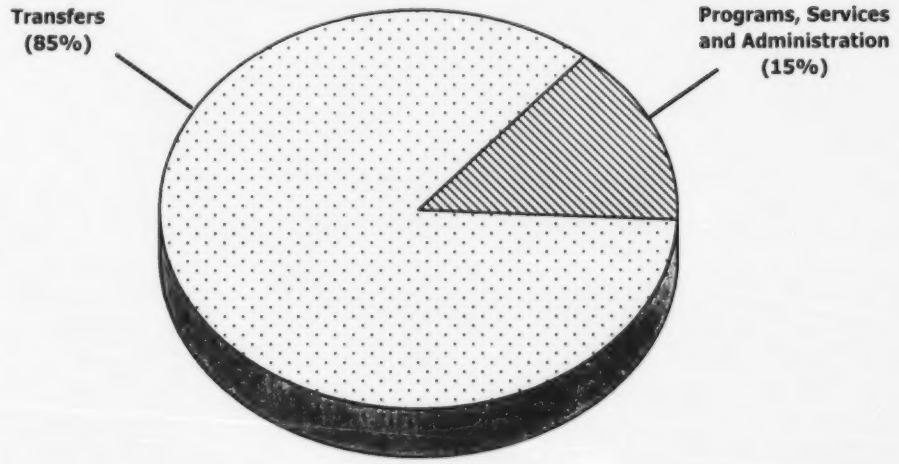
Financial Expenditures

The following is an overview of financial activities within the department:

BY OPERATIONAL AREA



BY EXPENSE CATEGORY



Financial Statements

OVERVIEW OF ACTUAL REVENUE AND EXPENSES TO ESTIMATES

	1999-00 Estimates $000s	1999-00 Actuals $000s	Variances Over/(Under) $000s	Notes
Revenue				
Other Revenues				
Other Licenses and Permits	15,014	17,344	2,330	1
Sales, Services and Service Fees	5,335	5,418	83	
Other	19	171	152	2
Transfers from the Federal Government	360	503	143	3
Total Revenue	20,728	23,436	2,708	
Operating Expenses				
Administration	2,241	2,290	49	4
Accommodation and Central Services	2,793	2,764	(29)	
Municipal Financial Assistance				
Urban Revenue Sharing	34,430	34,314	(116)	
Rural Revenue Sharing	25,734	25,401	(333)	
Northern Revenue Sharing	5,886	5,886	---	
Transit Assistance for the Disabled	2,150	2,150	---	
Policing Cost Restructuring Assistance	4,109	4,100	(9)	
Grants-in-Lieu of Property Taxes	6,250	6,482	232	5
SAMA (Authorized by Law)	4,000	4,000	---	
SAMA (Supplementary)	150	150	---	
Meewasin Valley Authority (Authorized by Law)	740	740	---	
Wakamow Valley Authority (Authorized by Law)	127	127	---	
Swift Current Chinook Parkway	78	78	---	
Wascana Centre Authority (Authorized by Law)	782	781	(1)	
Wascana Maintenance	1,840	1,840	---	
Subtotal	86,276	86,049	(227)	
Public Safety				
Prevention and Regulatory	3,050	3,104	54	
Emergency Planning and Response	596	544	(52)	6
Provincial Disaster Assistance Program	0	1,018	1018	7
Emergency Services Telecommunications	215	136	(79)	8
Joint Emergency Preparedness Program	400	301	(99)	9
Subtotal	4,261	5,103	842	
Housing				
Housing Operations	7,733	7,518	(215)	10
Home Modification for the Disabled	141	91	(50)	11
Home Improvement Program Subsidies	63	12	(51)	12
Transfer to Saskatchewan Housing Corporation	26,824	26,870	46	
Subtotal	34,761	34,491	(270)	

Financial Statements

	1999-00 Estimates $000s	1999-00 Actuals $000s	Variances Over/(Under) $000s	Notes
Gaming Funds				
Associated Entities Fund	3,125	8,112	4,987	13
First Nations Fund	13,750	11,829	(1,921)	13
Subtotal	16,875	19,941	3,066	
Culture and Recreation Financial Assistance				
Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation	345	345	---	
Saskatchewan Archives Board	2,285	2,598	313	14
Saskatchewan Arts Board	3,727	3,727	---	
SaskFILM	1,000	1,000	---	
MacKenzie Art Gallery	275	275	---	
Cultural Industries Development	200	200	---	
Subtotal	7,832	8,145	313	
Cultural Tourism Facilities				
Royal Saskatchewan Museum	1,392	1,480	88	15
Western Development Museum	1,810	2,085	275	16
Wanuskewin Heritage Park	250	250	---	
Saskatchewan Science Centre	150	150	---	
Saskatchewan Centre of the Arts	425	425	---	
Subtotal	4,027	4,390	364	
Municipal and Community Services	7,337	7,092	(245)	17
Provincial Library	8,094	8,092	(2)	
Total Expenses	174,497	178,357		
FTE Staff Complement	401.6	373.5		

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the government's accrual accounting policies. Some values may vary from those presented in the body of the Annual Report due to adjustments for accounts payable, prepaid expenses and other accrual accounting valuations.

NOTES

Explanation of variances of actuals which exceed estimates by 2 per cent and $10,000.

1. Increased lottery licensing fee as a result of increased ticket sales.
2. Cancellation of previously expensed infrastructure projects resulted in revenue recovery.
3. Increased public safety inspections completed on behalf of the federal government.
4. Development of the department's web site.
5. Property tax values on SPMC-owned property exceeded program estimates.
6. Savings resulting from cost-sharing of the training development program.
7. Expenses from municipal disaster assistance claims.
8. Fewer than estimated municipalities participated in the program.
9. The federal government approved fewer claims than were submitted by the Province.
10. Savings due to vacant positions.
11. Reallocation of funding to SHC to cover the provincial share of Home Adaptation for Seniors Independence grants.
12. Sooner than projected settlement of outstanding Home Improvement Loans.
13. Actual expenditures based on net profits reported from casino operations.
14. Impact of the new in-scope classification and pay equity provisions, as well as leasing temporary secured storage space.
15. Redevelopment of the Life Sciences Gallery.
16. Supplementary grant to address environmental conditions at Moose Jaw branch of the Western Development Museum.
17. Savings due to vacant positions.